

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A photosensitive member comprising  
a substrate;  
an intermediate layer including a tantalum doped tin oxide;  
and  
a photosensitive layer.

2. The photosensitive member of claim 1,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is dispersed in a  
binder resin.

3. The photosensitive member of claim 1,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is a tin oxide doped  
with 0.1 to 10 percentage-byweight tantalum metal.

4. The photosensitive member of claim 1,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is a solid solution of  
tin oxide and tantalum.

5. The photosensitive member of claim 1,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is formed by coating  
the surface of tin oxide with tantalum.

6. The photosensitive member of claim 2,

wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is particles having a mean particle size of less than about 2 micro-meters.

7. The photosensitive member of claim 6,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is particles having a mean particle size of about 0.01 to about 1.2 micro-meters.

8. The photosensitive member of claim 7,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is particles having a mean particle size of about 0.3 to about 1.0 micro-meters.

9. The photosensitive member of claim 2,  
wherein the content of the tantalum doped tin oxide is about 5 to about 70 percentage-by-weight of the total of the intermediate layer.

10. The photosensitive member of claim 1,  
wherein the intermediate layer is divided into an undercoat layer having a volume resistivity of about  $1 \times 10^6$  to about  $1 \times 10^{14}$   $\Omega\text{cm}$  and a conductive layer having a volume resistivity less than about  $1 \times 10^6$   $\Omega\text{cm}$ .

11. The photosensitive member of claim 10,

wherein the undercoat layer has a tantalum doped tin oxide content of less than about 40 percent-by weight and the conductive layer has a tantalum doped tin oxide content of about 30 percent-by weight or more.

12. The photosensitive member of claim 1,  
wherein the intermediate layer has a thickness of about 0.1 to about 30 micro-meters.

13. A photosensitive member comprising:  
a photosensitive layer; and  
an exterior surface layer containing tantalum doped tin oxide.

14. The photosensitive member of claim 13,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is dispersed in a binder resin.

15. The photosensitive member of claim 13,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is a tin oxide doped with about 0.1 to about 10 percentage-by weight tantalum metal.

16. The photosensitive member of claim 13,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is a solid solution of tin oxide and tantalum.

17. The photosensitive member of claim 13,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is formed by coating  
the surface of tin oxide with tantalum.

18. The photosensitive member of claim 14,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is particles having a  
mean particle size of less than about 2 micro-meters.

19. The photosensitive member of claim 18,  
wherein the tantalum doped tin oxide is particles having a  
mean particle size of about 0.3 to about 1.0 micro-meters.

20. The photosensitive member of claim 14,  
wherein the content of the tantalum doped tin oxide is  
about 5 to about 70 percentage-by-weight of the total of the  
intermediate layer.

21. The photosensitive member of claim 13,  
wherein the exterior surface layer has a thickness of about  
7 micro-meters or less.

22. A method of forming a photosensitive member,  
comprising the steps of:

applying a dispersion fluid to a substrate layer to form a  
dispersion layer on said substrate; and

forming a photosensitive layer on said dispersion layer,  
wherein a laminate type photosensitive member is formed.

23. The method according to claim 22,  
wherein said dispersion fluid includes tantalum doped tin  
oxide to form a dispersion layer.

24. The method according to claim 22,  
wherein said step of applying a dispersion fluid to form a  
dispersion layer includes the step of:

applying said dispersion fluid to a substrate to form  
an undercoat layer on said substrate.

25. The method according to claim 24,  
wherein said dispersion fluid includes tantalum doped tin  
oxide to form a dispersion layer.

26. The method according to claim 22,  
wherein said step of applying a dispersion fluid to a  
substrate layer includes the steps of:

applying a dispersion fluid to a substrate to form a  
conductive layer; and

applying an undercoat layer to a surface of said  
conductive layer,

wherein a conductive layer and an undercoat layer are formed between said substrate and said photosensitive layer.

27. A method of forming a protective overcoat layer for a photosensitive member, comprising the step of:

applying a dispersion fluid to a photosensitive layer of a photosensitive member to form a protective overcoat layer on said photosensitive layer.

28. The method according to claim 27,

wherein said dispersion fluid includes tantalum doped tin oxide to form a dispersion layer.

29. A method of forming a protective overcoat layer for a photosensitive member, comprising the steps of:

forming a photosensitive layer on a substrate; and

applying a dispersion fluid to said photosensitive layer to form a protective overcoat layer on said photosensitive layer.

30. The method according to claim 29,

wherein said dispersion fluid includes tantalum doped tin oxide to form a dispersion layer.